Gulf Islands National Seashore

Hunting

Gulf Islands National Seashore was established in 1971. The tremendous variety of habitats found on the seashore and it National Seashore an important wintering area for many species of migratory birds. The Seashore is listed as a National numerous recreational opportunities for Seashore visitors, among the most popular are camping, cast netting, fishing, picture the historic forts and walking on the beach.

Before your hunt

You must first obtain a hunting permit from the Seashore. The <u>permit</u> is issued free of charge by the Chief Ranger a youth under 16 and those over 65). To apply, submit the information in the permit online via <u>email</u>, or in person at t 1801 Gulf Breeze Parkway, Gulf Breeze, Florida, 32563 or (850) 934-2600. Permits will be issued Monday through

Before you apply for your permit, unless exempt, you must possess the following documents:

- 1. State of Florida hunting license
- 2. State of Florida Migratory Bird Permit
- 3. Signed federal "duck stamp" (for hunters age 16 and older)
- 4. State driving license
- 5. Confirmation number from your <u>Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program</u> (HIP) license

After your hunt

As a requirement of the Seashore waterfowl hunting permit, each hunter is required to file a "Waterfowl Hunt and Hary from each hunt including the date, unit hunted, number and species of waterfowl harvested. Please report hunts during zeros. Reports should be submitted individually for each member of a hunting party, but may be submitted or mailed or

Gulf Islands National Seashore Hunting Regulations

Waterfowl hunting on Gulf Islands National Seashore is in accordance with all State and Federal Migratory Bird reg these regulations before going afield. Seashore regulations are more restrictive and are listed below.

Open Season: Hunting is allowed during the open Waterfowl and Coot season(s) established for Florida, including hunting and hunting during the Special September Duck Season are not allowed within the Seashore boundaries. Via annual waterfowl and coot season brochure, typically available in October. Only waterfowl with an open season estable taken.

Hunting Times: Shooting hours are from 30 minutes before sunrise, to sunset.

Hunting Areas: Hunting for waterfowl is permitted in two areas of the Seashore, up to the mean high water tide lin delineated on the maps in this brochure/permit. Hunting Area boundaries depicted along the shore are the approximaline. The Hunting Areas are open to both hunters and non-hunters during waterfowl hunting season. Note specific to

Perdido Key Hunting Area – Located in the waters of the Big Lagoon area of Perdido Key under the Seashore jurisd beginning ½-mile east of the terminus of the Johnson Beach Road and visitor facilities to the eastern end of Perdido files in Garmin and Google Earth formats.

Santa Rosa Hunting Area – Located in the waters of Santa Rosa Sound under the Seashore jurisdiction from the wes Point to the eastern Seashore boundary near Navarre Beach (Map 2). A 150-yard no hunting buffer shall be maintai Opal Beach. Here are GPS track files in <u>Garmin</u> and <u>Google Earth</u> formats.

Access: Hunting areas within the Seashore may be accessed by water only. Access to hunting areas from land is pr

Boats may be launched outside the Seashore boundaries or from designated boat ramps within the Seashore. Boats travel within areas closed to hunting, but traveling with loaded guns shall be prohibited in these areas. No combustic seagrass beds within the Seashore boundaries. Use of electric (trolling) motors, sails or paddles is allowed in these a

Seagrass Beds: Within seagrass beds, the use of internal combustion engines is prohibited and shall not be operated boundaries. For vessels with motors, the motor(s) must be turned off and tilted up so as to be out of the water, or ren Use of electric (trolling) motors, paddling, and poling is allowed in these areas.

Youth Hunting: is in accordance with State Law. Youth hunters must remain in sight and normal voice contact wit years of age or older.

Bait and Wanton Waste: You may not hunt over bait or place any bait, or other food for wildlife within the Seashe willful waste of wildlife is prohibited.

Hunting Blinds: Hunting is permitted in temporary blinds (including boat blinds) located below the mean high wat at the end of each hunt. Construction of permanent blinds and digging are prohibited.

All reused blind material, if brought in from outside the park, should be rinsed off-site with water prior to hunting, to pests into the Seashore.

The use of non-native plants or plant materials for the construction of blinds or transportation of non-native species. The harvesting of any Seashore plant materials for the construction of a blind is prohibited. No person shall cut, dan made, or cultural resource without written authorization of the Seashore.

Discard blind materials outside of the Seashore and properly dispose of in accordance with Federal, State, and local

Littering is prohibited.

Hunting or Shooting: You may not shoot over any roadway. A minimum separation of 300 yards shall be required

Personal Property: such as blinds, decoy, boats and other gear must be removed from the field daily.

Dogs: The use of retrieval dogs is encouraged. Dogs must remain under the control of the hunter at all times. Dogs retrieve downed waterfowl to avoid wanton waste, but must remain under control of the owner. Dogs are strictly prewildlife other than downed waterfowl and are strictly forbidden from roaming the shorelines, beaches, or upland are

Camping: is prohibited.

Professional Hunting Guides: are required to obtain a Seashore/ NPS Commercial Use Authorization and have it

Alcohol: The possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited while engaged in hunting activities. Shall be enforced.

Glass: Glass containers are not allowed on the Seashore.

Hunting Equipment and Techniques

Persons hunting waterfowl at the Seashore shall comply with all Federal and State waterfowl hunting regulations. A pertain to migratory bird hunting is available at www.myfwc.com/hunting/by-species/waterfowl/.

No persons shall take migratory game birds with a trap, snare, net, rifle, pistol, swivel gun, shotgun larger than 10 gamachinegun, fish hook, poison, drug, explosive, or stupefying substance.

No persons shall take migratory game birds with a shotgun of any description capable of holding more than three sh piece filler, incapable of removal without disassembling the gun, so its total capacity does not exceed three shells. No persons shall take migratory game birds from or by means, aid, or use of a sinkbox or any other type of low float

affording the hunter a means of concealment beneath the surface of the water.

No persons shall take migratory game birds from or by means of any motorboat or other craft having a motor attached has been completely shut off and/or the sails furled, and its progress there from has ceased.

Taking or attempting to take any game species in Florida with recorded game calls or sounds is prohibited (68A-12.

No persons shall take migratory game birds from or by means or aid of any motor driven land, water, or air conveya purpose of or resulting in the concentrating, driving, rallying, or stirring up of any migratory bird.

No persons shall take migratory game birds from or by the aid of baiting, or on or over any baited area, where a personal that the area is or has been baited. Baiting means the direct or indirect placing, exposing, depositing, distributing, or that could serve as a lure or attraction for migratory game birds to, on, or over any areas where hunters are attempting

Non-toxic shot is required for waterfowl hunting. Possession of shells loaded with shot other than steel, bismuth/tin approved by USFWS, is prohibited. A list of approved shot types can be found at: http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/nontoxic.htm.

Non-Hunting Areas:

Hunting within the Seashore shall be allowed only at the Perdido Key and Santa Rosa Hunting Areas in Escambia C and 2.

A 150-yard no hunting buffer shall be maintained west and east of the picnic area at Opal Beach, Santa Rosa.

A ½-mile no hunting buffer shall be maintained east of the terminus of the Johnson Beach Road, Perdido Key.

The Seashore may execute protective (seasonal, temporary, or permanent) closure of areas to avoid impacts to protect habitats. Any closures will be implemented prior to the opening of waterfowl hunting season, no later than November

Hunting or carrying loaded firearms shall be prohibited within areas posted as closed to hunting, posted as safety zon areas.

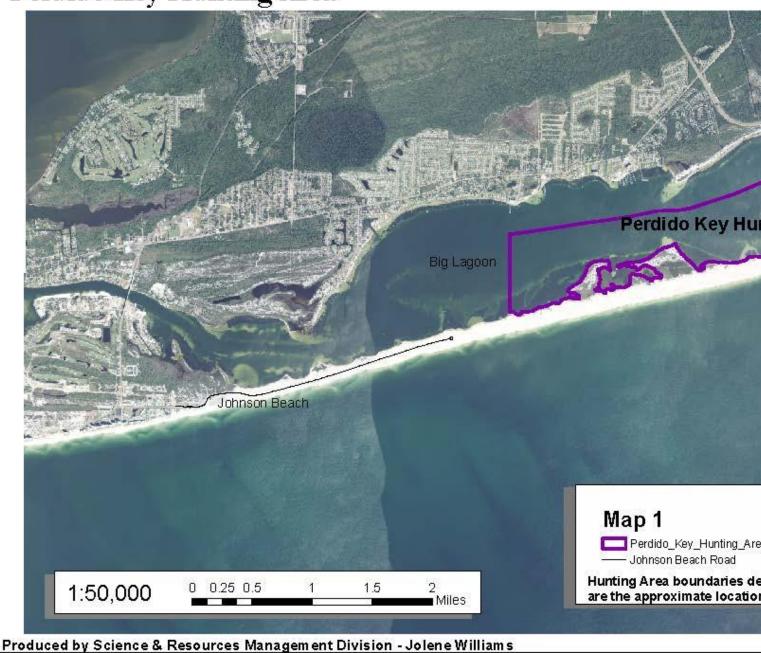
Boats used for hunting shall be allowed to travel within areas closed to hunting, but traveling with loaded guns sha

Repeat Violations: of Seashore regulations may result in the loss of hunting privileges within the Seashore.

Any person may be ejected from the area, including the revocation of their annual Seashore hunting permit, for diso abide by the federal, state, or Seashore-specific hunting regulations, or any other conduct which endangers the publi

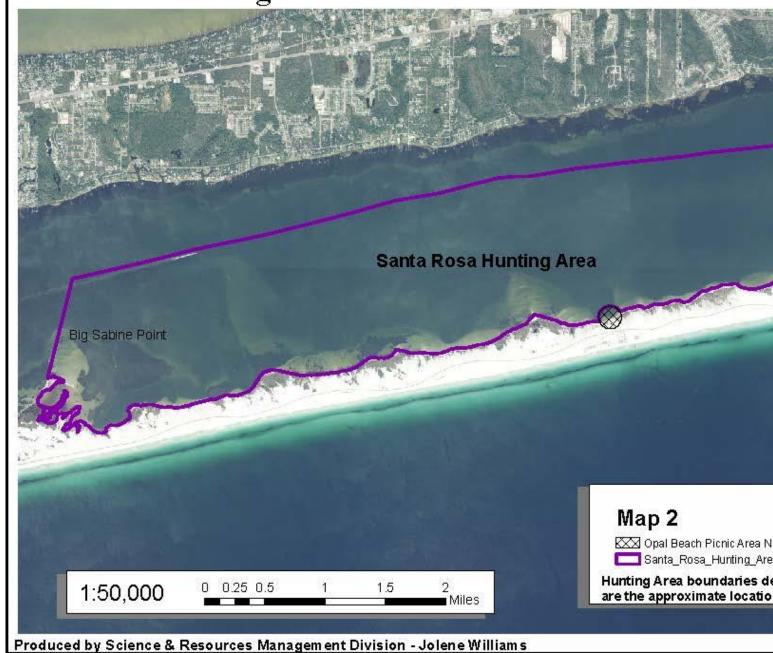
In addition to the above restrictions, all activities within the Seashore are subject to the Seashore Superintendent's C designations, closures, permit requirements and other restrictions imposed under the discretionary authority of the St National Seashore.

Perdido Key Hunting Area



FILE: WHMP.mxd

Santa Rosa Hunting Area



FILE: WHMP.mxd

Maps of Gulf Islands National Seashore's designated hunting areas.

For More Information

2011/12 Waterfowl Hunting Seasons In Florida

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC)

Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp ("Federal Duck Stamp Program")

U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Link to Latest Migratory Bird Hunting Rules and Notices U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service	